Threat of terrorists

†*616. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that threat of terrorists attacks on ports, ship building factories and related institutions in the country has been received;

(b) whether Government have constituted a high level Committee to inspect security preparations;

(c) if so, by when the report of the Committee would be received; and

(d) by when the steps regarding the security would be taken?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (d)AII major ports are ISPS (International Ship and Port Security) Code compliant and have erected suitable security measures keeping in view the level of the perceived threats. Anonymous letters containing threats of terrorist strike on passenger ships and foreign vessels, etc. have been received by some of the ports. The Ministry of Shipping, Road Transport and Highways has constituted a committee on 1.5.2007 under Chairmanship of Chairman, Cochin Port Trust to review the security aspects of all Major Ports and Shipyards under the control of Department of Shipping and recommend further steps to be taken to enhance the security arrangements. The Committee will submit the report within 30 days.

Software Technology Parks

617. SHRIT.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

whether the export growth of Software Technology Parks of India Units have been decreasing during the last three years;

If so, the reasons therefore; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) the action taken to rectify the situtation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) No, Sir. As per Software Technology Parks of India (STPI), Software Exports through STP Units during Financial Year 2006-07 are estimated to be about Rs. 1,30,000 Crores as compared to the Rs. 1,00,965 Crores in financial year 2005-06. The software export through STP units of last three years are as under:

Financial Year	Rupees in crores
2003-04	51458
2004-05	74019
2005-06	100965

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Improving ties with major powers

*618. SHRI VIJAY J.DARDA:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

whether after the India-China-Russia trilateral framework, India has started discussion on a four-cornered dialogue between India, Japan the United States and Australia on upward spiral of improving ties with all major powers of the world;

if so, whether India has decided to improve its ties with all its major partners to promote India's economic and commercial interest abroad;

if so, to what extent these talks have been helpful and would help India among global powers; and

whether India has sought the support of Japan for gaining access to high-tech know-how and equipment for peaceful use of atomic energy?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) It is Government of India's policy to improve ties with all our major partners.